

FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE
2430 E Street, NW
Washington 25, D.C.

10 January 1949

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Chief, Okinawa Bureau
Foreign Broadcast Information Service
Headquarters, Ryukyu Command, G-2
APO 331, c/o Postmaster
San Francisco, California

Dear Frank:

I wish to acknowledge receipt of and reply to your letter of 25 December 1948.

First of all, I should like to say that I am indeed sorry that my letter of 9 December arrived on Christmas Eve. Unfortunately, of course, I do not control the speed of the mail between here and Okinawa but I do hope that it did not spoil your Christmas. I am most grateful for the splendid manner in which you accepted this letter, and I wish to assure you that I have complete confidence in your ability to do the job laid out for you on Okinawa.

I have finally succeeded in getting the Department of the Army to dispatch a cable to RYKOM with reference to their local plans for broadcasting activities. I am attaching hereto copy of a cable which I have been given to understand was dispatched to RYKOM substantially as written. This should avoid future complications of this sort and insure the necessary coordination. You should, of course, call our attention to any new developments which appear to be contrary to the general agreement I reached with the Army.

I concur in your suggestion that you consolidate all of your thoughts and present us with a new overall wage scale plan in one compact paper with definite and concrete recommendations. With reference to salaries for Orientals, you perhaps have had more dealings with Orientals than I. Nevertheless, I am definitely of the opinion that it is impossible to keep them happy from a wage scale point of view. Any advantage gained is invariably used as a stepping stone from which to seek an additional advantage. Of course, we have to offer these people some incentive to leave their own country and come to Okinawa, and I think this should be our criterion, we should give them a better deal than they have in their own country so that they will be willing to come to Okinawa to work. I do not believe that we

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should give them the same kind of a deal we do Americans. Americans for the most part do not have as good a deal in going to Okinawa to work as they would have in their own country. This is something which you, of course, must work out locally. I realize that salaries may have to be raised at a later date and this is all the more reason why they should not be started too high. The actual salaries paid should be dependent on what other U. S. governmental agencies in your locality pay for similar services and should be enough to offer an incentive for the employee to leave his own country and come to Okinawa to work for us. In all probability we will accept your recommendations without change unless they appear to be too far out of line.

It is unlikely that anyone from here who can decide policy will be coming to Okinawa in the near future. I really do not think that it is necessary. You and [] should be able to carry the load without too much help from us here. Both of you were oriented in Washington at considerable expense to us, and unless problems develop which you cannot solve locally, it is improbable that anyone will come out within the next few months. You should, therefore, conduct your activities on this assumption; do not wait for someone to come and provide these answers. We are no farther from you than the cable room and are anxious to give you decisions on matters of policy. We must rely completely on you for the implementation of this policy and the solution of your local problems to insure that the policy is successfully carried out. We will support you to the limit in every respect, and we are perfectly willing to take any problem direct to the Department of the Army or any other governmental agency if you cannot solve it locally.

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With reference to your desires to put some extra trimmings on the Bureau Chief's quarters, I certainly have no objection to this if it can be arranged in the same manner as I have previously described. Obviously, it would be desirable for you and [] to entertain occasionally. However, I wish to emphasize that I do not feel that personnel from here visiting or inspecting your station should be your house guests. I think such is actually undesirable unless no other suitable arrangements can be made.

In closing, I wish to reemphasize that we are depending on you and Gregory to carry the ball all the way on this project and we have complete confidence that you can do so in a commendable manner.

Sincerely,

Enclosure
cc of proposed cable

L. K. White

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